

request.htm. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in paragraph 7 of the Act.

Comments received are subject to public disclosure. In general, comments received will be made available without change and will not be modified to remove personal or business information including confidential, contact, or other identifying information. Comments should not include any information such as confidential information that would not be appropriate for public disclosure.

Comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors, Benjamin W. McDonough, Secretary of the Board, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20551-0001, not later than October 9, 2026.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Christopher Koopmans, Senior Vice President) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1414.

Comments can also be sent electronically to

Comments.applications@chi.frb.org:

1. *The Mark J. Sexton 2026 Grantor Trust, Mark J. Sexton, as trustee and trust advisor, and the Jennifer Sexton Walther 2026 Grantor Trust, Jennifer Sexton Walther, as trustee and trust advisor, all of Saint Paul, Minnesota; the Andrew G. Sexton 2026 Grantor Trust, Andrew G. Sexton, as trustee and trust advisor, both of Cedar Falls, Iowa to join the Sexton Family Control Group, a group acting in concert, to retain voting shares of Readlyn Bancshares, Inc., and thereby indirectly retain voting shares of Nashua Bancshares, Inc., both of Saint Paul, Minnesota.*

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Benjamin W. McDonough,
Secretary of the Board.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

[Assistance Listing Number: 93.576]

Announcement of the Intent To Award a Single-Source Cooperative Agreement to International Rescue Committee in New York, New York

AGENCY: Refugee Program Bureau, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR),

Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of issuance of a single-source cooperative agreement.

SUMMARY: The ACF, ORR, Refugee Program Bureau announces the intent to solicit and award a single-source cooperative agreement up to \$20,000,000 to International Rescue Committee (IRC), in New York, New York, for the National Virtual Program for Professional Advancement. The proposed project period is September 30, 2026, through September 29, 2027. Under this initiative, IRC will use its nationwide virtual service delivery model to provide professional advancement services to up to 1,334 eligible refugees who arrived in the United States between September 1, 2026, and September 30, 2026.

DATES: The proposed period of support is September 30, 2026, through September 29, 2027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Miro Marinovich, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, 330 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20201. Telephone: (202) 729-3638; Email: *miro.marinovich@acf.hhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: ORR intends to solicit and award a cooperative agreement to IRC for the National Virtual Program for Professional Advancement (NVPPA). The proposed action will provide up to \$20,000,000 to IRC to establish and implement a nationwide virtual service model.

Under this initiative, IRC's national Economic Empowerment team will serve up to 1,334 eligible refugees who arrived in the United States before between September 1, 2026, and September 30, 2026. Services will be available virtually nationwide, regardless of a participant's location or initial resettlement agency, and will include outreach, orientation, intake, eligibility verification, Career Development Planning, navigation, job readiness and pathway-specific training, direct financial assistance, job development, and job placement support. IRC will track enrollment, services, disbursements, and employment outcomes.

Of the \$20,000,000 supplement, up to \$16,008,000 will go towards direct financial assistance for the costs of education and training of as much as \$12,000 per participant for 1,334 eligible refugees. The remaining \$3,992,000 will support IRC staffing, supplies, and associated indirect costs.

Eligible direct financial assistance will include tuition; degree, certification, licensing, and examination costs; credential evaluation; textbooks and software; uniforms and safety gear; transportation; child care; required equipment; and a vehicle when an approved Career Development Plan establishes that the purchase is necessary for a career goal.

IRC will use its existing national virtual infrastructure and apply eligibility, career planning, documentation, vendor verification, direct payment, reporting, and enrollment contingency controls. Payments generally will be made directly to vendors or training providers; staff will confirm that each expense aligns with an approved Career Development Plan; vendors will be verified as licensed or accredited; and IRC will report against defined enrollment and spending thresholds.

The proposed model addresses geographic barriers to assistance, unrecognized foreign credentials, and limited funds for career-related costs that can leave qualified refugees in survival employment below their skill level. It is intended to help participants recover prior professions or build new career pathways, support household self-sufficiency, and reduce geographic disparities in access to career services.

ORR proposes to solicit and award IRC because it can use its existing national virtual infrastructure and established program and stewardship controls, supporting a faster, more expansive launch than site-based programs.

Timely issuance is important because eligible clients are arriving throughout September 2026. The funding must be provided before the end of the fiscal year for IRC to begin serving eligible refugees on September 30, 2026. The proposed cooperative agreement through September 29, 2027, will allow IRC to set up and implement the nationwide virtual model.

Statutory Authority: Under section 8 U.S.C. 1522(c) of the Refugee Act, ORR is authorized to make grants to and contracts with public or private nonprofit agencies to assist refugees in obtaining the skills necessary for economic self-sufficiency.

Elizabeth Leo,

Grants Policy Branch Chief, Office of Grants Policy, Office of Administration.

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